THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) It has been intimated by Prasar Bharati that serials with themes of interest of all cross sections of society are approved/telecast by Doordarshan. It has further been intimated that a number of serials based on the works of renowned writers like Munshi Prem Chand, Yash Pal, Sarat Chandra etc. are telecast on Doordarshan. In addition, interviews with prominent persons in the field of literature are also telecast from time to time.

Anti-India Propaganda by Pak TV

363. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA:
SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state the steps Government have taken to counter anti-India propaganda by Pak TV, especially in border areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): It has been the constant endeavour of the Government to strengthen the transmission network of Doordarshan all along the border to enhance the coverage within as well as across the border. This is being achieved by enhancing the power of existing transmitters, setting up of new transmitters and through appropriate programme development. At present, 11 projects for improvement of Doordarshan services, in Indo-Pak border areas are under implementation. In addition, a scheme for massive expansion of Doordarshan coverage in border States of J&K and Punjab involving an outlay of Rs. 218 crores has also been approved.

The duration of programmes telecast from DDK, Srinagar on 'Kashmir channel' in Kashmiri and other dialects of J&K has been enhanced from 2 hours to 15 hours a day from January 26, 2000.